# CONFESSION OF THE GOLDEN WITCH (2)

KIHI-HI...
YOUR TEARS ARE AN APERITIF TO ME!
A HUMAN SEEN AS A WITCH WILL NEVER GAIN HAPPINESS DIDN'T YOU EVEN KNOW THAT, FURNITUUURE?
THIS PAIN OF LOVE IS THE MOST DELICATE HORS D'OEUVRE!

NEE-SAN
WE ARE AND WILL BE FURNITURE...
DON'T EVEN COME NEAR MY SISTER!
BEGONE, WITCH!
YOU MUST NOT GET ANY CLOSER TO PEOPLE THAN YOU ALREADY ARE..!
NO FURNITURE... THERE IS ONLY ONE WAY TO PROPERLY LIVE AS FURNITURE..!
YOU HAVE TO TELL THIS TO GEORGE-SAMA AS WELL!
THERE CANNOT BE LOVE BETWEEN PEOPLE AND FURNITURE!
BUT... I AM...
KANON-KUN...
IT'S TIME TO WORK...
WORK...

"ONE IS THE RESURRECTION OF EVEN THE LOVE ONCE LOST"
..."ONE IS THE RESURRECTION OF ALL THE SOULS OF THE DEAD"...
I LOST EVERYTHING...
SO, YOU GET FOUR TREASURES" RIGHT?!
IN EXCHANGE FOR THAT GOLD...
WHAT A JOKE...
door
"PUT THE WITCH TO ETERNAL REST"...
NOTHING LIKE THAT HAPPENS... NOW IT'S JUST ABOUT RETURNING THE MECHANISM TO ITS ORIGINAL SHAPE SO THAT THE GOLD STAYS HIDDEN...

EVEN GENJI-SAN AND THE OTHERS ORDER ME AROUND IN THE SAME HARSH TONE AS BEFORE.
EVEN THE CIRCUM-STANCES OF MY OWN BIRTH, I TOLD TO NOBODY.
THE FACT THAT I SOLVED THE EPITAPH AND SUCCEEDED THE HEADSHIP.
I SPENT MY DAYS LIKE BEFORE, WITHOUT EVER ANY CHANGE...
NO MATTER HOW MUCH GOLD THERE WAS, THERE WERE NO MEANS FOR ME TO BE SAVED FROM MY CURSED FATE.
AND THE FEELING OF GUILT FOR NOT REVEALING IT TO THE PERSON I HELD FOND FEELINGS FOR, CLUNG UNTO ME ALL THE TIME.
IF I SPOKE IT OUT LOUD, IT WOULD COME RUSHING IN WITH SO MUCH MORE ACTUALITY. HOW MISERABLE I AM.
I WAS AFRAID OF LAYING IT OUT IN THE OPEN.
THE ONLY THING LEFT WAS TO PUSH IT ALL DEEPER AND DEEPER INTO MY HEART.

THE DEATH OF THE MASTER
WAS AS IF THE WITCH WITHIN ME HAD CAST HER MAGIC.
THROUGH A SECRET AGREEMENT IT ALL BECAME CONCEALED.
KRAUSS -SAMA TOOK ON EXORBITANT LOANS.
THAT IS WHY THEY HAD TO PUSH THE QUESTION OF THE INHERITANCE FURTHER AWAY, THEY SAID.
WHAT AN AR-ROGANT WOMAN!
SHE TALKS OF PROTECTING HONOUR, BUT THE ONLY THING SHE CARES ABOUT IS HER OWN APPEARANCE!
THAT SCUM, THEY WERE ALL TOO READY TO DENY OUR HONOURABLE HEAD A PROPER FUNERAL!
THE DAYS KEPT BY WITHOUT CHANGE.

AND NATSUHI, SHE MADE YOU FALL OFF THAT CLIFF..
IT'S A JUST REWARD FOR KINZO WHO HELD ME PRISONER AS WELL!
MY WORLD WAS TURNED INTO A NEGATIVE IMAGE OF ITSELF ON THAT DAY.

I WILL HAVE TO DISCUSS THE INSPECTION OF THE FREEZER AND AN INCREASE OF PRESERVATIVES WITH GENJI-SAN...
HONESTLY, WHAT IS HE RESEARCHING THERE?!
SHANNON, ISN'T THE STENCH COMING FROM JII-SAMA'S STUDY LATELY THE WORST?
LATELY THE MASTER IS PUTTING ALL HIS EFFORTS INTO THIS ...
AND SINCE HE HAS A LOT OF VERY BAD DAYS, I THINK IT IS BETTER IF YOU DON'T GO TO HIS STUDY ANYMORE, MILADY...

LET US PROPOSE THE ACQUISITION OF A NEW FREEZER TO MADAM.
YES ...
IN THE UNDER-GROUND
WHERE DID ALL THESE SKELETONS COME FROM?
GENJI -SAN ...
THE BONES ...
THEY ARE ALL GATHERED IN ONE ROOM ...
I HEARD THERE WAS A MASS KILLING BETWEEN THE JAPANESE SOLDIERS AND THE PEOPLE WHO CAME ON THE ITALIAN SUBMARINE THAT HAD ALSO BROUGHT THE FIRST BEATRICE-SAMA HER-
ONCE ROKKEN-JIMA HAD BEEN A BASE FOR THE JAPA-NESE ARMY.

ALL THROWN ON A HEAP ... AS IF DUMPED ON A GARBAGE PILE ...
THOSE SKELETONS WEARING ITALIAN AND JAPANESE UNIFORMS ...
UNORGANIZED ...
THERE THEY WERE PILED UP ...
CLUTTERED ...
WHY DID HE BUILD HIS MANSION ON THIS ISLAND, AS IF TO HIDE THEM ALL?!
WHY DID THE MASTER LEAVE HIS COMRADES LIKE THIS, WITHOUT EVEN A PROPER BURIAL?
THE MASTER... HE KILLED THEM ALL, DIDN'T HE?!
TO MONOPOLIZE BEATRICE-SAMA AND THE GOLD...

MAYBE HE CARRIED THEM HERE AFTER KILLING THEM
OR
...
...
I
...
IN THIS BODY
...
FLOWS
...
THIS DIRTY BLOOD
...
IT WAS AT THAT POINT WHEN...

ARE YOU TWO GOING STEADY?
DID YOU GO ON A DATE?
YOU SEEMED TO HIT IT OFF QUITE WELL THE LAST TIME HE WAS ON THE ISLAND!
TELL ME ALREADY, WHAT IS THERE BETWEEN YOU AND GEORGE NII-SAN?
BE-TWEEN ...
NO... GOING STEADY WOULD BE....
HE JUST HELPED ME WITH SOME SHOPPING AND..
IT WASN'T REALLY A DATE..
I DON'T KNOW ABOUT... BEING A GIRL-FRIEND ...
HE'S YOUR BOYFRIEND! AND YOU'RE HIS GIRLFRIEND!!
AND NOW YOU KEEP SAYING YOU'RE NOT GOING STEADY?!
SHUT UP! IT WAS A DATE. I TELL YOU!!

REALLY?! SO YOU DIDN'T TRY TO GET AHEAD FIRST??
WE PROMISED WE WOULD GET BOYFRIENDS AT THE SAME TIME!
MI...
MILADY...
ばたーん
HEY..
SHAN-NON...
YES?
AMONG THE SERVANTS...
THERE'S THIS BOY CALLED KANON... AM I RIGHT?
ARE YOU... CLOSE?
...EH?

KANON, DOES HE...
HAVE A GIRLFRIEND OR SOME-THING?

I WAS GETTING DIZZY...

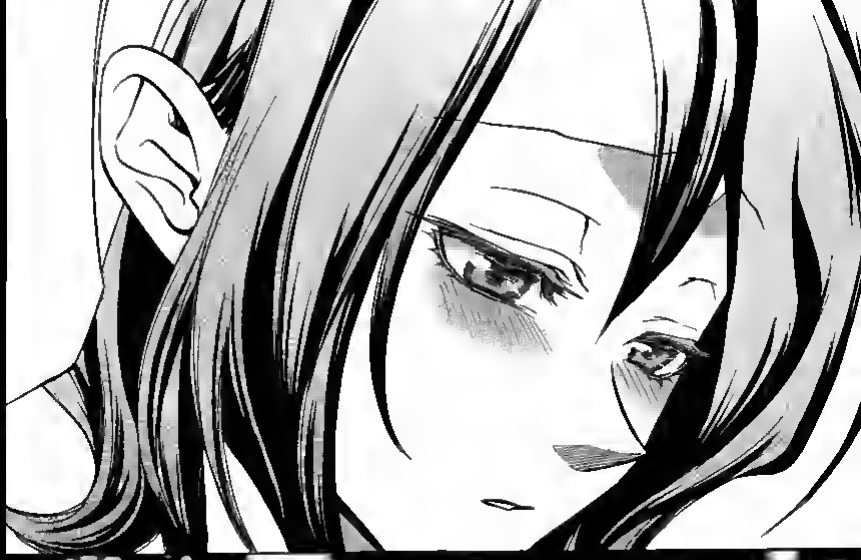
...OF JOY FOR BEING APPROACHED WITH SUCH FAVOUR.

FOR KANON, WHO WAS THIS LUMP OF ALL THE UGLINESS INSIDE OF ME.

FOR HIM WHO WAS THE OPPORTUNITY FOR A LIFE AS A BOY.

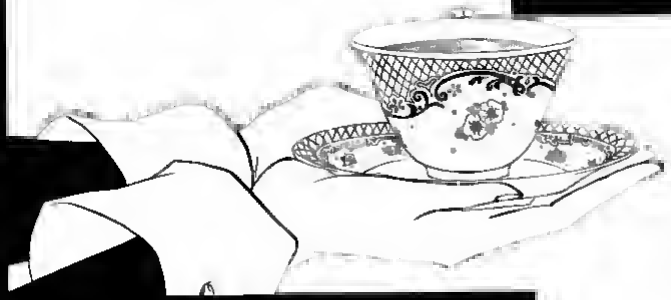
FOR HIM TO HAVE SOMEBODY APPROACH HIM WITH SUCH FAVOUR.

BUT, YOU KNOW... IF I SPEAK TO HIM MORE...MAYBE I CAN CHEER HIM UP A LITTLE...
WHEN I SAY WONDERED, I DON'T MEAN LIKE LIKE-LIKING HIM...
AH...
HE ALWAYS SEEMS SO LONELY LOOKING INTO THE DISTANCE... SO I WONDERED...



IT FELT ALMOST AS IF HE HAD BEEN ALLOWED TO LIVE.

AT THE SAME TIME...



I WAS SHUDDERING IN DISGUST.

TOWARDS THE GENES OF USHIROMIYA,
DEEP, DEEP WITHIN MYSELF.

HE ALWAYS KEEPS HIMSELF SHUT OFF
BUT I THINK HE WOULD FEEL JOY AT BEING TALKED TO BY MILADY
WELL... NO... HEM...
I DO NOT THINK THAT KANON-KUN HAS A GIRLFRIEND
REALLY ?!

TOWARDS THE BLOOD OF KINZO FLOWING WITHIN ME,
FEELING JOY BECAUSE OF THIS FAVOUR.

THE ONLY THING CHANGING ON WERE THE DAYS AND MONTHS, WHILE I KEPT SILENT ...
AND THE FEELINGS OF THOSE TWO ONLY DEEPENED MORE...

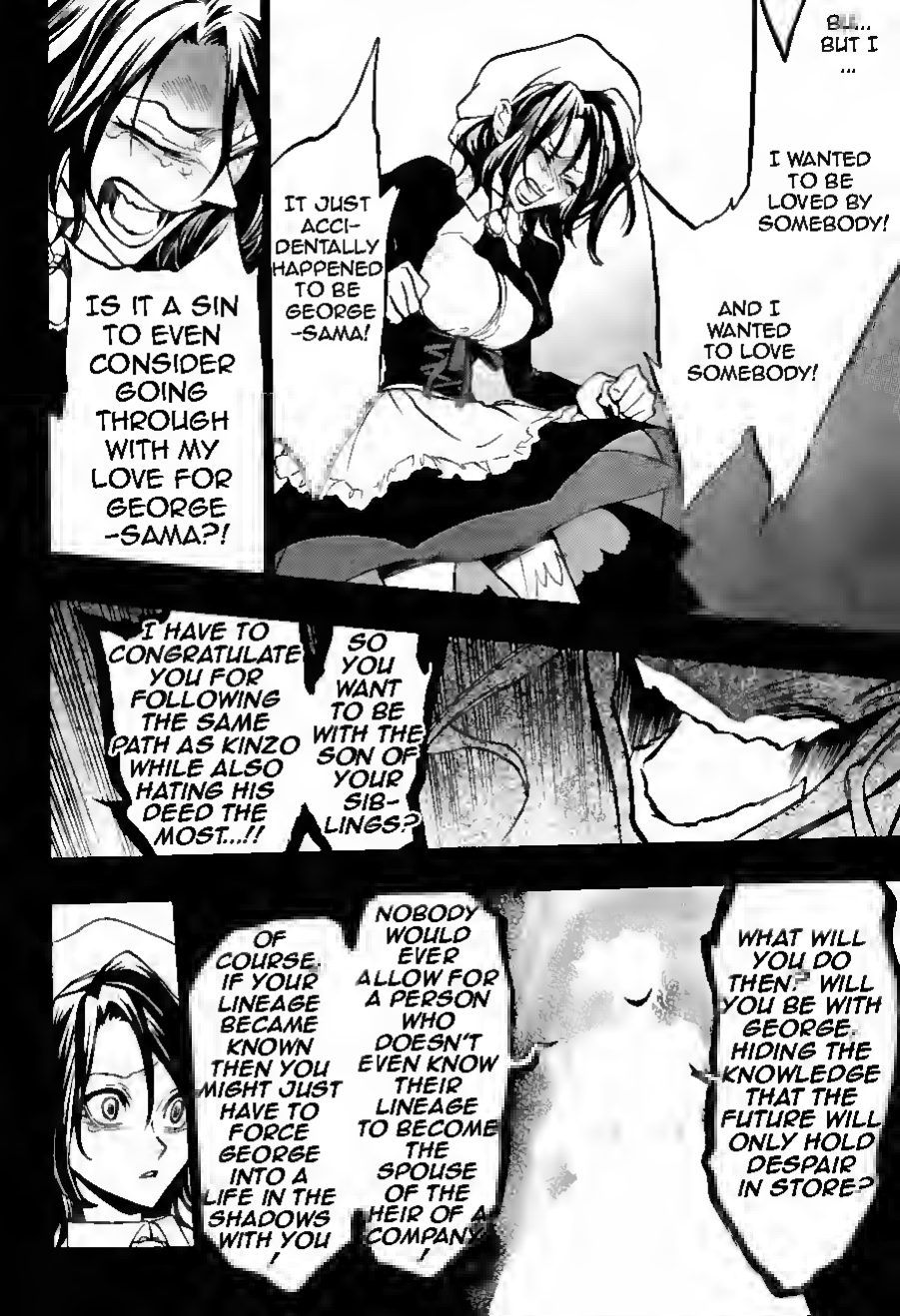
LISTEN TO IT IF YOU LIKE!
IT'S A MIX-TAPE WITH MY RECOMMENDATIONS!
LISTEN TO THIS IF YOU FEEL DOWN!
FOR SOMEONE LIKE ME, WHO IS LIVING BY DENYING THEMSELVES ...
SHANNON I AM SO HAPPY TO HAVE MET YOU!
YOU MAKE A GENTLE WIND BREEZE THROUGH MY HEART ...
I GET TO KNOW SO MANY NEW EMOTIONS, JUST BY BEING WITH YOU ...

THE RAW FEELING OF "BEING LOVED" OR "IT BEING ALRIGHT TO LIVE" WAS MORE BLISS THAN I EVER KNEW. WILL ANYBODY BE ABLE TO UNDERSTAND THAT?
THANK YOU FOR BEING BORN.
SWAYED MY RESOLVE OF HAVING TO BARE THE TRUTH TO THEM.
WHA ...?
I WASN'T PLAN-NING TO MAKE YOU CRY...
AND THAT WAS WHAT ...

I WAS SO SURE THAT ON AN OCCASION LIKE THIS, EVEN A WEAKLING LIKE ME WOULD BE ABLE TO OVERCOME HER FEAR.
I CAST ALL MY WISHES ON THIS SLIVER OF HOPE THAT IF GEORGE -SAMA TRULY LOVED ME, HE WOULD ACCEPT ME EVEN IF HE LEARNED THE TRUTH...
THAT IS WHY I FELT A LITTLE RELIEVED ...
WHEN HE WAS TALKING ABOUT STAYING A NIGHT ON OUR TRIP.
AND GEORGE-SAMA SUDDENLY BROUGHT UP TALKS OF GETTING ENGAGED
MI ...
MI-LADY ...
WHA... SEPARATE ROOMS?!
BUT MY RESOLVE WAS IN VAIN THAT CHANCE DID NOT COME ABOUT...
I HAVE TO TELL GEORGE-SAMA THE TRUTH AS FAST AS POSSIBLE...
I CAN'T TRICK HIM ANY LONGER...
WHAT SHOULD I DO...

GEORGE -SAMA WOULD SURELY BE ABLE TO ACCEPT ME ...!
AREN'T THOSE SWEET WORDS, FURNITU-UUUUUU-UUURE?
LOVE MEANS LUST AND CAN ONLY BE MEASURED BY TWO BODIES LYING TOGETHER!
GEORGE WILL DESPAIR ...
AS SOON AS HE KNOW ABOUT YOUR BIRTH AND YOUR BODYY-YYYYYY!!

YOU ARE SINFUL JUST FOR IMAGINING YOURSELF AND HIM TOGETHER!
I WANT A FUTURE LIKE THAT WITH YOU.
A GOOD LIFE, SURROUNDED BY ALL OUR CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN...
WHY ARE YOU PRETENDING TO BE RIGHT FOR GEORGE WHEN YOU CAN'T EVEN FULFIL HIS DREAM?!
BUT GEORGE -SAMA... HE IS SINCERE...
OUR LOVE IT... WILL NOT BE DESTROYED ...
BY SOME-THING... LIKE THAT...
IT IS BECAUSE GEORGE IS SIN-CERE !
QUIT JAB-BERING THAT NON-SENSE !
IT WILL PUT OUT ALL HIS LOVE FOR SOMEONE LIKE YOU WHO KEPT LYING TO HIM, EX-PLOITING HIM WITH A FRUIT-LESS LOVE!
THERE IS NO NEED FOR HIM TO CHOOSE YOU!!
THERE ARE COUNTLESS REPLACE-MENTS FOR YOU!!


IS IT A SIN TO EVEN CONSIDER GOING THROUGH WITH MY LOVE FOR GEORGE -SAMA?!
IT JUST ACCI-DENTALLY HAPPENED TO BE GEORGE -SAMA!
BU... BUT I ...
I WANTED TO BE LOVED BY SOMEBODY!
AND I WANTED TO LOVE SOMEBODY!
I HAVE TO CONGRATULATE YOU FOR FOLLOWING THE SAME PATH AS KINZO WHILE ALSO HATING HIS DEED THE MOST...!!
SO YOU WANT TO BE WITH THE SON OF YOUR SIB-LINGS?
OF COURSE. IF YOUR LINEAGE BECAME KNOWN THEN YOU MIGHT JUST HAVE TO FORCE GEORGE INTO A LIFE IN THE SHADOWS WITH YOU!
NOBODY WOULD EVER ALLOW FOR A PERSON WHO DOESN'T EVEN KNOW THEIR LINEAGE TO BECOME THE SPOUSE OF THE HEIR OF A COMPANY!
WHAT WILL YOU DO THEN? WILL YOU BE WITH GEORGE, HIDING THE KNOWLEDGE THAT THE FUTURE WILL ONLY HOLD DESPAIR IN STORE?

BE-
CAUSE
I...
AND
...
SOME-
BODY
WITHOUT
EVEN A
COMPLETE
SOUL
...
DOESN'T
HAVE THE
RIGHT FOR
LOVING
GEORGE
ANYWAY!
KANON-KUN,
PLEASE TELL
ME
YOUR REAL
NAME...
IT
WAS SO
PAINFUL,
HAVING
TO
REFUSE
HER ON
THAT
DAY!!
BECAUSE
I LOVE
MILADY!
IT
WAS SO
PAINFUL,
HAVING TO HURT
MILADY
LIKE
THAT
...
IT WAS
ESPE-
CIALLY
HARSH
BECAUSE
IT WAS
LIKE
DENYING
MYSELF,
BECAUSE
I DO LIKE
HER...
KANON
-KUN...

MILADY JESSICA IS NOT A REPLACE-MENT FOR GEORGE -SAMA!!
BECAUSE I... I WANT TO HAVE LOVE!!!
MILADY SHINES LIKE THE SUN AND SHE MAKES EVEN SOMEONE LIKE ME SHINE!!
WHEN I AM WITH HER, I FEEL LIKE I DON'T HAVE TO KEEP LIVING LIKE THIS ANYMORE ...!!!
NEE-SAN, YOU KNOW THAT EVEN IF YOU GET REFUSED BY GEORGE-SAMA, THERE WILL STILL BE LADY JESSICA, RIGHT?!

WITH YOUR GOLD ALL THE PROBLEMS OF THE HOUSEHOLD SHOULD BE SOLVED IN NO TIME!!
THEN WHY DON'T YOU STEP FORTH AND REVEAL YOURSELF, GOLDEN WITCH?!
JES-SICA
THAT CAREFREE GIRL WHO DOESN'T EVEN KNOW THE TRUE FORM OF THIS FAMILY?
STOP ...
STOP IT AL-READY ...!!
MY, MY, IT IS NOT THAT EASY OF A STORY!
IF I REVEAL MY EXISTENCE TO THEM, THOSE GREEDY HOUNDS WILL SHOW THEIR TRUE COLOURS AND START TO FIGHT ...
AND THE ONLY THING REMAINING FOR YOU AND SHANNON WILL BE RUIN!
AND YOU ARE NOTHING BUT THAT!
IT WAS THE CURSED BLOOD OF THE USHIROMIYA THAT DROVE YOU TO THIS POINT ...

WHAT-
EVER
YOU
MAY
CHOOSE
...
THERE
IS NO
RUNNING
FROM
THE
PAIN!

I HAVE BEEN DRIVEN TO THE FAR END OF THE WALL...
CHOOS-ING ...
WHAT-EVER I CHOOSE THIS PAIN CLINGS TO ME ...
I HAVE TO DECIDE UNTIL THE DAY WHEN GEORGE -SAMA WILL GIVE ME THAT RING DURING THE FAMILY CONFERENCE ...
AND THAT DAY WILL MARK THE BORDER WHEN MY LIFE WILL TRULY CHANGE WITHOUT FAIL.

EVERY-THING.
I HAVE TO TELL GEORGE -SAMA...
AND THEN I WILL LEAVE THE ISLAND AND CAST AWAY THE ME THAT IS KANON AND THE ME THAT IS BEATO.
GEORGE -SAMA WILL SURELY ACCEPT ME...
BUT I WILL NOT BE ABLE TO GIVE GEORGE -SAMA THE BLISS OF BEING SURROUNDED BY PEOPLE...
I WILL LIVE AS SAYO. THE LIFE THAT I AM LONGING FOR AS SAYO.
STILL, MY WISH ISN'T GREAT SO ...

IF WE SHARE TRUE LOVE THEN WE CAN SURELY BE HAPPY ...
DON'T COME ANY CLOSER.
DID YOU THINK SOMEBODY LIKE YOU COULD HONESTLY MARRY ME?
YOU ARE DISGUSTING!
DON'T EVER SHOW UP IN FRONT OF ME AGAIN!
YOU'VE BEEN DECEIVING ME ALL THIS TIME, HAVEN'T YOU?!
YOU MAKE ME WANNA PUKE!

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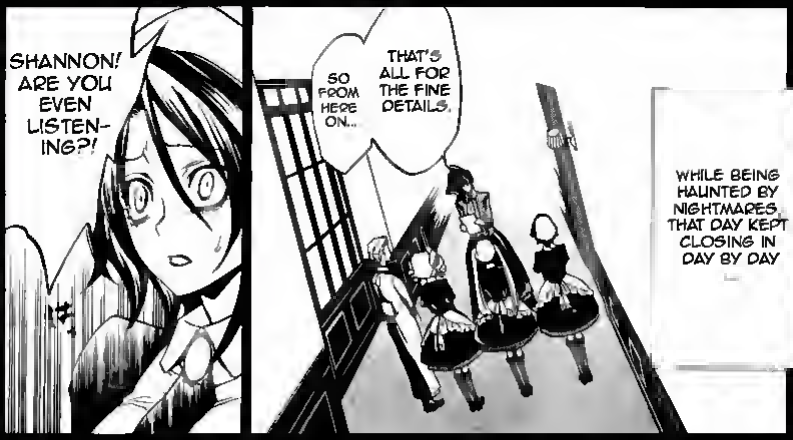
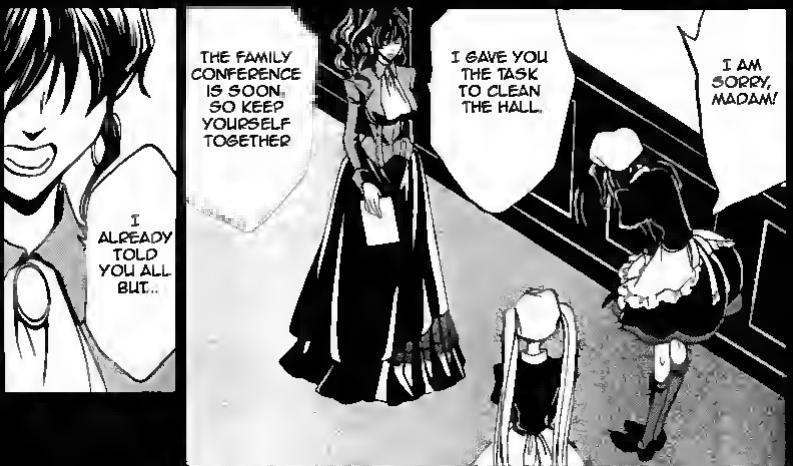
HAVING NEVER EXPERIENCED BEING ACCEPTED FOR WHO I TRULY AM ...
IT WAS EXCEEDINGLY DIFFICULT TO IMAGINE AND BELIEVE IN A HAPPY FUTURE
... UH ...
ガバッ!!

IF I COULD JUST GO ETERNALLY WITHOUT TELLING HIM THE TRUTH. THEN I COULD BE HAPPY WITH HIM ETERNALLY. YET...
HE ISN'T LIKE THAT..!
NO ... GEORGE -SAMA ISN'T LIKE THAT...

I WILL BELIEVE IN YOU ... SO PLEASE ...
YOU WILL ACCEPT ME, RIGHT...?
GEORGE -SAMA ... YOU WILL ...


SHANNON! ARE YOU EVEN LISTEN-ING?!
SO FROM HERE ON..
THAT'S ALL FOR THE FINE DETAILS.
WHILE BEING HAUNTED BY NIGHTMARES, THAT DAY KEPT CLOSING IN DAY BY DAY


I ALREADY TOLD YOU ALL BUT..
THE FAMILY CONFERENCE IS SOON. SO KEEP YOURSELF TOGETHER
I GAVE YOU THE TASK TO CLEAN THE HALL.
I AM SORRY, MADAM!

FOR THE FIRST TIME IN 6 YEARS, BATTLER-KUN WILL BE ATTENDING AGAIN AT THIS FAMILY CONFERENCE.
LET US PREPARE WITH ALL OUR POWERS SO THAT NO EMBARRAS-SMENTS OCCUR ON THAT DAY.

IS IT TRUE THAT BATTLER-SAN IS COMING BACK?

BATTLER-SAN IS COMING HOME!
HE REALLY DIDN'T FORGET HIS PROMISE!
HE'S COMING HOME!
HE'S COMING TO TAKE ME WITH HIM!
HE FINALLY APPEARED DURING MY TIME OF GREATEST HARDSHIP AND WILL SAVE ME FROM THIS HELL CALLED FATE!
THIS TIME I WILL FINALLY BECOME BATTLER-SAN'S BRIDE!

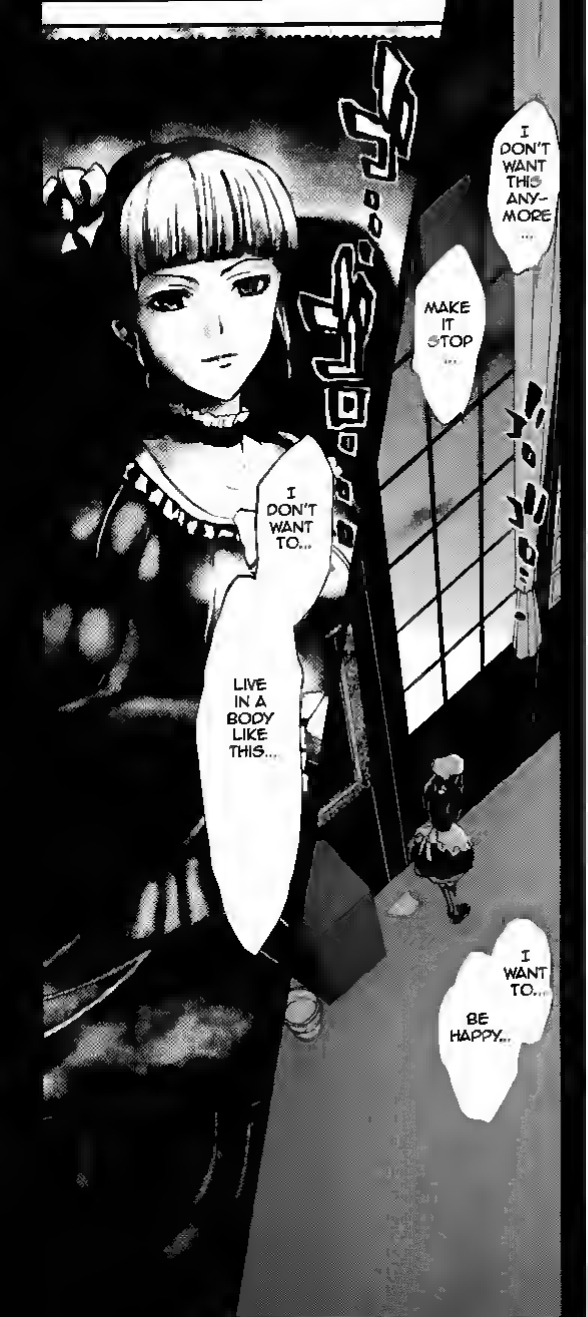
I LOVE BATTLER -SAN THE MOST THAN EVERYONE ELSE IN THE WORLD!
PLEASE GO AWAY ...
YOU DOUBT OUR BELOVED BATTLER -SAN?
I THOUGHT I HAD SEPARATED MYSELF FROM YOU, MY EMOTION OF FIRST LOVE
THERE IS NO WAY THAT BATTLER-SAN IS COMING TO TAKE ME WITH HIM NOW— SOMEBODY WHO DIDN'T EVEN MANAGE TO SEND A LETTER
HE PROBABLY DOESN'T EVEN REMEMBER A CHILDISH PROMISE LIKE THAT...
MY CURRENT SELF IS ONLY THINKING OF GEORGE -SAMA
LIAR.

I CAN HEAR US HOWLING IN PAIN.
KYHA-HAHAHA
LET'S STOP BEING STRONG!
AREN'T YOU THE ONE WHO FEELS THE MOST JOY, FOR HAVING EXPECTED BATTLER'S RETURN HOME MORE THAN ANY-ONE ELSE?!
IT COMES JUST RIGHT WHY NOT MAKE IT AN INSURANCE FOR WHEN GEORGE HAS BROKEN UP WITH YOU?
OR WHY NOT CHANGE TO BATTLER RIGHT NOW?

I HAVE BEEN ...
A SQUIRMING, STUPID SPIDER, CAUGHT IN ITS OWN WEB
OOH THAT'S RIGHT! NO MATTER WHO YOU CHOOSE ...
YOU HAVE THAT FILTHY BODY THAT DOESN'T ALLOW YOU TO CONNECT WITH ANYONE!

EVEN YOU WILL PROBABLY FIND A PARTNER THAT IS JUST RIGHT FOR SOMEBODY LIKE YOU!
BUT I KEEP STUMBLING ALL TOO SOON AND END UP CRYING AGAIN AND AGAIN ...
I WILL COME FOR YOU ON A WHITE HORSE!
I WAS JUST RUNNING AROUND CONFUSED, TRYING TO ESCAPE MY FATE ...
WHY IS HE NOT COMING BACK ...?
I WANT A FAMILY!
PLEASE, TELL ME YOUR REAL NAME!
I CURSED FATE.
YOUR MOTHER, SHE WAS...
FORGIVE ME...
I JUST WANT TO SAY ONE THING, BEATRICE...
I CURSED THE WORLD.
BUT IT LEFT A HUGE SCAR ON YOUR ABDOMEN

MAYBE, IF I HAD STOOD UP AND CHOSEN A LIFE FOR MYSELF A BIT FASTER, WITHOUT DESPERATELY RUNNING FROM FATE ...
AFTER 6 YEARS BATTLER-KUN IS ATTENDING AGAIN
IT WAS AT A TIME WHEN I WAS TIED HAND AND FOOT TO AN INESCAPABLE FATE THAT KEPT CHOKING ME...
WHEN I NOTICED THAT I HAD SPUN THAT THREAD BY MY OWN DEVICES.
THERE AKIMA AND ME AND SAKUTAROU AND EVERYONE WILL BE HAPPY..
BE TO YOU WILL TAKE ME TO THE GOLDEN LAND, RIGHT?
THINGS MIGHT HAVE ENDED WITHOUT THIS DAY EVER OCCURRING.




BUT BY NOW I HAD NOT EVEN THE POWER LEFT TO PUT UP AN HONEST STRUGGLE ...

IF I COULD JUST MAKE IT ALL NEVER HAPPENED..
SOME-HOW...
IF I COULD JUST BE SMILING WITH THE PEOPLE I LOVE ...
IN A WORLD WITHOUT TIES OR BONDS... SOMEHOW...
BUT I CAN'T ...
BECAUSE I HAVE THIS BODY...
I CAN'T GO ANY-WHERE...
I CAN'T BECOME HAPPY...

AND COULD BE CONNECTED TO ALL OF THEM...

BY OUR SOULS...

IF I WAS ONLY FREED...

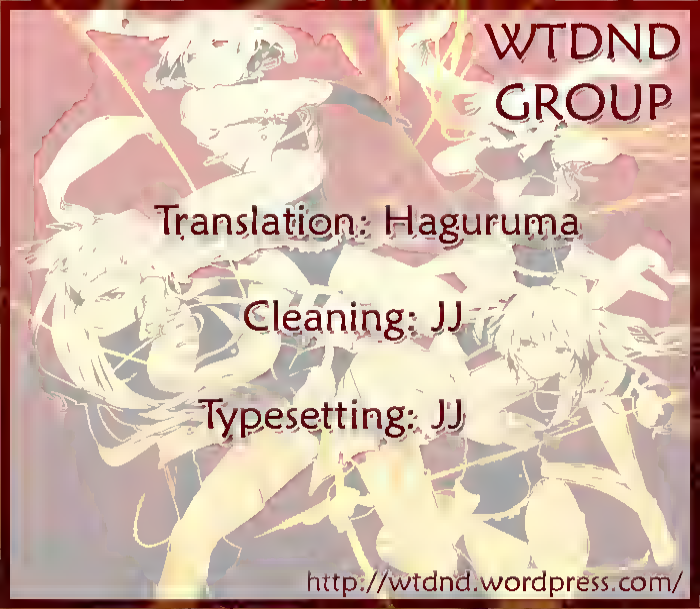
FROM THIS LUMP OF FLESH TIED DOWN BY OBLIGATION...

FOR I AM NOW, BEATRICE, THE WITCH OF ROKKEN-JIMA.
BUT ...
IT IS SO EASY ...

* NO OPEN FLAMES
** EXPLOSIVE STORAGE 1

I HAVE THAT POWER.
TO SEE IF IT CAN STILL BE USED...
NOW...
YOU PLANNED TO COMMIT SUICIDE WITH THIS WHOLE ISLAND IN A CASE OF EMERGENCY, DIDN'T YOU?!

I WILL CARRY IT ALL OUT ON THE DAY OF THE FAMILY CONFERENCE.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